

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach *D.*

DATE: May 27, 1968

FROM : A. Rosen *A.R.*

SUBJECT: MURKIN

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Malley
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Long
- 1 - Mr. McDonough
- 1 - Mr. Martindale
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Gale
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Trotter

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

This case involves the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr.

An individual by the name of [redacted] Denver, Colorado, advised our Denver Office he received a telephone call on two separate occasions from a friend, Edgar Eugene Bradley. According to [redacted] he and Bradley formerly lived in Ruby, Arkansas, attended school in Alma, Arkansas, but [redacted] lost track of Bradley when Bradley went into the United States Navy in 1933. He subsequently saw Bradley in Dallas, Texas, in 1963.

According to [redacted] Bradley called him on 5-17-68, from Tulsa, Oklahoma, and stated that he had Eric Galt with him. [redacted] did not know who Galt was and Bradley told him he was also known as James Ray. [redacted] related to Bradley that he did not know Ray and Bradley stated that Ray was the man who killed Martin Luther King, Jr. Bradley claims to have lived with Ray for about one week in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

[redacted] continued to state that Bradley called him again on 5-23-68, and stated that he was at the Old South Restaurant, Fort Smith, Arkansas, and was working his way West. Bradley claimed he was eating his meals at the Old South Restaurant which is operated by [redacted] Elba Basinger Thompson. [redacted] stated that Bradley was allegedly under subpoena by District Attorney James Garrison, New Orleans, Louisiana, in connection with the assassination of President Kennedy.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Thompson, operators of the Old South Restaurant, Fort Smith, Arkansas, were interviewed and they advised that Bradley is unknown to them and they could not identify a photograph of James Earl Ray. [redacted] advised that [redacted] is a mental case, tends to associate himself with criminal cases of national

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prominence and he was last in Fort Smith, Arkansas, about three years ago at which time he claimed he had been in a cell with Jack Ruby in Dallas, Texas. Investigation revealed this was a false statement and a doctor at Parkland Hospital, Dallas, examined [REDACTED] and found probable psychosis and possible brain syndrome.

Relatives of Edgar Eugene Bradley were interviewed at Fort Smith, Arkansas, and they advised that Bradley currently resides at North Hollywood, California, and is presently employed as [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Relatives advised that Bradley was definitely not in Tulsa, Oklahoma, or Fort Smith, Arkansas, as alleged, and an uncle of Bradley's talked to him on 5-23-68, as Bradley was calling from North Hollywood, California. The relatives also advised that Bradley has been charged by James Garrison with conspiracy in the assassination of President Kennedy and is due to have extradition hearing before Governor Reagan of California on June 5 and 6, 1968.

We are presently conducting investigation to determine the whereabouts of Bradley on 5-17-68, and 5-23-68, and we will ascertain if he has any information concerning James Earl Ray.

Circuit Judge John C. Casey, St. Louis, Missouri [REDACTED] [REDACTED] sentenced James Earl Ray to 20 years in a penitentiary for armed robbery in 1959. Ray was serving this sentence when he escaped from Missouri State Penitentiary in April, 1967. [REDACTED] a motion to set aside this conviction was filed before Ray's escape and is still pending.

[REDACTED]

Hearing on this motion did not develop in the manner anticipated [REDACTED] The attorney for Ray stated in open court he had been appointed subsequent to escape and has never seen or been contacted by Ray. The attorney objected to attempted state introduction of escape notation on Missouri State Penitentiary record as insufficient evidence of escape. The attorney took the position that the appearance of Ray unnecessary on motion to vacate as same based solely on record which is available. Judge Casey has taken this matter under advisement and no publicity developed.

ACTION: The investigation is being afforded top priority.

*abw* *JRM* - 2 - *abw*